

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 19, 2018

Chairman Rodney Shaw called the regular meeting to order on February 19, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. in the commission room of the Court House. Commissioner Jack Carpenter, Commissioner Goff Searl, Clerk Niki Collier, Deputy Clerk Becky Smilko and County Counselor Zoe Newton were all present. Commissioner Goff Searl opened the meeting with prayer.

Commissioner Carpenter moved to approve the minutes of Monday, February 12, 2018. Commissioner Searl gave the second and the motion passed 3-0.

Road & Bridge Superintendent Joel Haden reported rock was hauled to the following locations; Rd. 6 & Union, Rd. 21 & Cowboy, Rd. 25 & Dalton, Rd. 8 & Trail, Rd. 26 & Bronco, Rd. 6 & Valley and Rd. 30 & Hwy 166 going south at Niotaze. Commissioner Carpenter relayed a compliment he had received for work done on Dalton Rd. Mr. Haden reported that the road magnet continues to be in use on the noxious weed truck and has been removing nails and other metal from the roadways.

County Clerk Niki Collier inquired if the Commissioners would like her to obtain bids regarding the annual fire system inspection and extinguisher services. Commissioner Carpenter stated it would be nice to see if the County could save money and the Board asked her to get quotes. Mrs. Collier distributed the annual Mortgage Report provided by the Register of Deeds Laura Beeson for review and approval.

Noxious Weed Director Jim Duncan presented his annual approval certificate from the State of Kansas that certifies he has met the requirements from the Secretary of Agriculture to be Chautauqua County Weed Director. Mr. Duncan provided the annual noxious weed eradication progress report for review and signatures. He also stated that the State of Kansas is now allowing for Noxious Weed to assess additional fees regarding chemical sales that would cover the cost of storage & maintenance. Mr. Duncan suggests charging according to the manner in which the unit is sold, for example \$1.00 per gallon or \$.10 an ounce. This would allow the cost to remain affordable.

Courthouse Maintenance Richard Hambleton stated that the lawnmower will be delivered this week. Mr. Hambleton reported that he has done research comparing single on-demand water heater units to a large single unit and provided a quote. Commissioner Shaw inquired about the age of the current hot water tank in the basement and Mr. Hambleton stated he was unsure and would try to obtain that information. The Board stated since the current unit is in working order they would like to delay purchasing a new one at this time. Commissioners approved a ladder purchase at Ackerman's Hardware store. He also reported that the courtroom benches were repaired and ready for the jury trial, and the workshop is getting cleaned up. Mr. Hambleton stated the Council on Aging has started a recycling program and he will be participating with the courthouse recyclable trash.

County Counselor Zoe Newton asked for clarification regarding governing of the Rural Fire Districts, Commissioner Searl stated the Board approves their budgets and the Fire Boards make their own decisions. Additionally, Mrs. Newton advised when equipment or furniture must be moved it is best practice to use another county employee in order to limit the

county's liability. She stated it is acceptable to have adults or nonprofit organizations volunteer their time, she would recommend that they sign a waiver.

Reta Pipher joined the meeting at 9:20 a.m. Mrs. Pipher expressed her concerns with recent criminal activity in the county.

Commissioner Searl motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 a.m., seconded by Commissioner Shaw, motion passed 3-0.

Goff Searl, First District Commissioner

Rodney Shaw, Chairman, Second District Commissioner

Jack Carpenter, Third District Commissioner

ATTEST:

Niki Collier, County Clerk